[0072]   Then, the multimedia-phone 101 receives the device information 611 of the wireless mouse 120, and stores setting values of the device information 611 of the wireless mouse 120 as values of the input device of the multimedia-phone 101. Thus, the wireless mouse 120 is set as the input apparatus for the multimedia-phone 110 (step S513).

[0073]   A device which has not been selected in step S504 (the IP-Web-phone in this embodiment) shifts from the active state to a sniff state which is one of low-power-consumption states. The IP-Web-phone 110 in the sniff state is provided with a sniff slot from the wireless mouse 120 at every sniff period agreed with the wireless mouse 120. The wireless mouse 120 and the IP-Web-phone 110 transmit/receive a packet only during this sniff slot. Accordingly, since the wireless mouse 120 and the IP-Web-phone 110 perform minimum transmission/reception processing, power consumption can be reduced.

(Operation of peripheral devices by the wireless mouse 120)

[0074]   The multimedia-phone 101 which has set the wireless mouse 120 as the input apparatus in the above-described manner starts, for example, videophone application software by an operation through the wireless mouse 120. In the videophone application software, when the communication partner of a videophone has been assigned from telephone-directory data registered in a memory (not shown) of the multimedia-phone 101, videophone communication is started, so that the user can utilize the videophone function of the multimedia-phone 101. The user performs videophone communication by operating the digital camera 105, serving as image output means, the monitor 104, serving as image output means, a speaker (not shown) incorporated in the monitor 104 as sound output means, and the

microphone 207 incorporated in the wireless mouse 120 as sound input means, using the wireless mouse 120. The digital camera 105 and the monitor 104 are connected to the multimedia-phone 101 in advance.

[0075]　Next, a description will be provided of the operation of changing setting of the wireless mouse 120 from the input device for the multimedia-phone 101 to the input device for the IP-Web-phone 110, with reference to the flowchart shown in FIG. 10.

[0076]　First, when the user depresses the mouse-function setting button 124 provided on the wireless mouse 120, the system controller 201 within the wireless mouse 120 displays the list of the device name and the host-device name as shown in FIG. 7 on the display unit 123, based on the device information stored in the memory 205 (step S1001).

[0077]　The user confirms the list displayed on the display unit 123 using the wheel 122, selects a device to be operated (the IP-Web-phone 110 in this embodiment), and determines the selected device by clicking the left button of the wireless mouse 120 (step S1002).

[0078]　The CPU within the wireless mouse 120 transmits a packet instructing transition to the active state to the IP-Web-phone 110 during the sniff slot set between the wireless mouse 120 and the IP-Web-phone 110 (step S1003).

[0079]　The IP-Web-phone 110 which has received the instruction from the wireless mouse 120 shifts from the low-power-consumption sniff state to the active state (step S1011).

[0080]　The IP-Web-phone 110 receives the device information 611 of the wireless mouse 120, and stores setting values of the device information of the wireless mouse 120 as values of the input apparatus for the IP-Web-phone

110. Thus, the wireless mouse 120 is set as the input device for the IP-Web-phone 110 (step S1012).

[0081]   The user can operate the IP-Web-phone 110 using the set wireless mouse 120, and retrieve information using the Web browsing function of the IP-Web-phone 110.

[0082]   At that time, since the multimedia-phone 101 is used as a videophone and maintains a state of connection to the communication partner, an operation using the wireless mouse 120 is unnecessary. Accordingly, the system controller 201 within the wireless mouse 120 shifts communication with the multimedia-phone 101 that is in the active state to the lower-power-consumption sniff state in order to reduce the load of communication processing.

[0083]   Although in this embodiment, a description has been provided assuming that a peripheral device which does not set the wireless mouse 101 as the input apparatus is connected to the wireless mouse 101 in the sniff mode, the peripheral device may be connected in any other low-power-consumption mode, such as a hold mode, a park mode or the like.

[0084]   The device to be operated by the wireless mouse 101 can be smoothly changed from the multimedia-phone 120 to the IP-Web-phone 110 in the above-described manner. Accordingly, even in a case in which information to be retrieved by the Web appears while the user communicates with the communication partner using the videophone function, and therefore the Web browsing function cannot be utilized because the videophone function is being used, it is to possible to change setting of the wireless mouse 120 as the input apparatus for the IP-Web-phone 110, and retrieve the desired information by utilizing the Web browsing function of the